Remarks

Applicant requests reconsideration of the above-referenced patent application.

I. Claim Listing

This response does not cancel, add, or amend claims. Thus, claims 2, 4-7, 12-15, and 19-31 are pending. All pending claims are shown in the previous section.

II. Response to the provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection of claims 2, 4-7, 12-15, and 19-31

Claims 2, 4-7, 12-15, and 19-31 have been provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-58 of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/874,504 and claims 1-58 of U.S. Patent Application No. 10/113,157. Applicants request withdrawal of this rejection. U.S. Patent Application No. 09/874,504 was expressly abandoned on August 9, 2005. As to U.S. Patent Application No. 10/113,157, Applicants have enclosed a terminal disclaimer to obviate a provisional double patenting rejection over a pending "reference" application (*i.e.*, Form PTO/SB/25). Applicants have submitted the terminal disclaimer simply to expedite prosecution of this application, and make no representation as to the merits of the statements in the office action regarding whether the claims in this application are patentably distinct from the claims in U.S. Patent Application No. 09/874,504 or U.S. Patent Application No. 10/113,157.

III. Information Disclosure Statement

The Examiner has requested that Applicants provide copies of the previously-filed forms PTO-1449, so that the Examiner can initial those forms. Applicants have enclosed the requested forms PTO-1449 (*i.e.*, the forms PTO-1449 from the May 16, 2002 and October 13, 2002 information disclosure statements together with copies of the return receipt postcards for those information disclosure statements). Applicants request that the Examiner initial the enclosed forms PTO-1449 and provide the initialed forms to the Undersigned.

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/031,898 Response to May 24, 2005 Final Office Action August 23, 2005

IV. Corrected Filing Receipt

On September 14, 2004, Applicants filed a request for corrected filing receipt to correct the §371 date of this application. Applicants request that the Patent Office issue a corrected filing receipt.

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Applicants have enclosed a check for \$130.00 for the §1.20(d) terminal disclaimer fee. Applicants believe that they do not owe any other fee(s) in connection with this response. If, however, Applicants do owe any such fee(s), the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge those fee(s) to Deposit Account No. **08-0750**. In addition, if there is ever any other fee deficiency or overpayment under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 or §1.17 in connection with this patent application, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such deficiency or overpayment to Deposit Account No. **08-0750**.

Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance, and request that it be allowed. Applicants also request that the Examiner call the Undersigned if any issues arise that can be addressed over the phone to expedite examination of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR §1.8

I certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on August 23, 2005 with sufficient postage as first class mail (including Express Mail per MPEP §512), and addressed to Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Lydia N. Nenow, PTO Reg. No. 52,530

LNN/CCW/TML